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1. USSR - France: Pravda's first editorial comment on the French situation on 11 June suggests that the USSR is still being careful not to prejudice its future diplomatic relations with de Gaulle. Pravda focused its attacks on the French committees of public safety. The Soviet press continues to publicize and implicitly endorse the increasingly sharp French Communist Party line, however, and has printed Jacques Duclos' statement calling for Communist leadership of a united campaign against a de Gaulle-led fascist movement. (CONFIDENTIAL)
Sources: [REDACTED] 10 and 11 Jun 58

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2. De Gaulle's attitude towards communists: His offer of a cabinet post to a General Labor Confederation leader, who is regarded by many as a crypto-Communist, alarmed leaders of the non-Communist unions. They fear de Gaulle lacks a basic understanding of Communism. De Gaulle's record indicates a wariness as to Communist objectives, but he considers himself a symbol of national reconciliation and probably will continue such gestures. (CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN) Source: EMB PARIS 5874, 11 Jun 58

3. France - Tunisia: The French are balking at the "provisional regime" proposed by the Tunisians for the Bizerte base and provided for in the 15 March good offices proposals. Bourguiba is under domestic pressure to demand evacuation of all French forces from Tunisia, including Bizerte. (SECRET) Source: EMB TUNIS 1749, 10 Jun 58

4. France: Finance Minister Pinay has recommended that de Gaulle's economic program include tight credits, removal of subsidies and special privileges and a "drastic" reduction in expenditure. By thus seeking to equalize the burdens of re-trenchment, this program appears to be an effort to reassure labor, which is on the point of pressing long postponed wage demands, but the removal of subsidies will face sharp opposition from agricultural and industrial interests. (CONFIDENTIAL) Sources: EMB PARIS, 5850, 10 Jun 58 (Conf); NY Times, 12 Jun 58

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